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NASA CI/CT MONTHLY NEWS UPDATE – Feb 2016

This monthly newsletter is published to increase NASA personnel awareness of significant current issues related to counterintelligence, counterterrorism, and counterintelligence cyber matters. To learn more about CI/CT awareness, or to schedule a CI/CT presentation, please contact the CI POC located on the last page.

No Active Alerts

TYPES OF ADVISORIES

Bulletin

Describes current developments or general trends regarding threats of terrorism.

Elevated Alert

Warns of a credible terrorism threat against the United States.

Imminent Alert

Warns of a credible, specific and impending terrorism threat against the United States.

Significant Counterterrorism (CT) Issues:

OFFICIALS: ISIS MAY BE TESTING CHEMICAL WEAPONS AS GROUP GROWS



There is growing evidence that ISIS is experimenting with chemical weapons as the number of foreign fighter's hits a new high, according to current and former government officials.

http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2016/01/12/isis-testing-chemical-weapons-asterror-group-expands-rapidly-officials-say.html

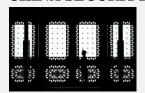
ISIS HAS SET UP CAMPS INSIDE EUROPE FOR MORE 'LARGE SCALE' ATTACKS, WARN EU POLICE

The Islamic State is plotting mass casualty terror atrocities in Europe following the massacres in France last year, the EU's crime-fighting agency has warned. The terror group claims have to hundreds of militants in countries across the continent ready to bring murder and mayhem to the streets, said Europol. http://www.nbcnews.com/storyline/isis-terror/isis-trail-death-n475861



Significant Counterintelligence Issues:

CHINA SECURITY-THE INNER WORKINGS OF CHINESE ECONOMIC ESPIONAGE



There are enough Chinese cyber-attacks where it's fair to say most of us are familiar with the surface picture. There were close to 700 Chinese cyber-attacks designed to steal corporate or military secrets in the United States between 2009 and 2014, according to an NSA map released by NBC News. http://www.theepochtimes.com/n3/1928208-china-security-the-inner-workings-of-

chinese-economic-espionage/

NAVY BRIBERY SCANDAL SHOWS HOW EASY IT CAN BE TO STEAL SECRETS

For the foreign defense contractor, stealing U.S. Navy secrets turned out to be a breeze. All it took was a little cash, a few cheap gifts—and a willing sailor. The sailor repeatedly downloaded classified documents and other sensitive information about Navy operations in Asia, and handed it over for a low, low price, according to federal court records.



https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/checkpoint/wp/2016/01/21/sentencing-in-epic-navy-bribery-scandal-shows-how-easy-it-was-to-steal-military-secrets/







Significant Cyber Issues:

REAT BRAIN ROBBERY



If spying is the world's second oldest profession, the government of China has given it a new, modern-day twist, enlisting an army of spies not to steal military secrets but the trade secrets and intellectual property of American companies. It's being called "the great brain robbery of America."

http://www.cbsnews.com/news/60-minutes-great-brain-robbery-china-cyber-espionage/

AMERICA'S MOST SENIOR INTEL OFFICIAL HAS PHONE. EMAIL HACKED

A member of a hacker group that took responsibility for breaking into the personal email account of the director of the CIA last year has now hacked the email of the most senior intelligence official in the United States.



http://intelnews.org/2016/01/14/01-1844/

Analyst Notes – Items to Watch:

ISIS continues to confound Western analysts and has persevered in spite of intense military and law enforcement pressure around the globe. The threat from ISIS has morphed from a crisis in the Middle East to a worldwide terrorism threat. Attacks in Africa, Turkey and elsewhere show ISIS's terrorist "reach". Instead of weakening them as originally believed, the struggle for recruits, influence and cash between ISIS and Al-Qaeda has strengthened both groups. Continued arrests and plotting shows that ISIS supporters and sympathizers are still interested in attacking the United States and Europe. The number of ISIS plots in the United States continues to rise and both the FBI and DHS expect more "lone wolf" type attacks in 2016. China, Iran, Russia and others continue their conventional espionage efforts and cyber-attacks against the United States and other Western nations. The insider and economic espionage threat are at alltime high levels in the United States and continue unabated; costing the U.S. billions in lost revenue and intellectual property loss. The NASA CI/CT division continues to monitor these threats and any others that have the potential to harm NASA or its equities.

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